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Minutes

— of the —

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-THIRD

ANNUAL SESSION

— of the —

LITTLE RIVER

Primitive Baptist Association

— Held With —

HONEYCUTT'S REQUEST

Sampson County, North Carolina
September 26, 27, 28,

1952

Next session to be held with Salem Church in Johnson County, North Carolina, beginning on Friday before the fourth Sunday in September, 1953.

— OFFICERS —

ELDER J. S. COLLINS ..... Moderator
BROTHER M. E. FISH ..... Clerk
BROTHER J. D. STANCIL ..... Assistant Clerk

THE PRIMITIVE BAPTIST PUBLISHING HOUSE & LIBRARY
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Proceedings

OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION OF THE LITTLE RIVER PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, HELD WITH THE CHURCH AT HONEYCUTT'S REQUEST,

Sampson County, North Carolina, September 26, 27, 28, 1952.

FRIDAY MORNING, September 26, 1952.

1. The meeting was opened with praise and prayer by Elder C. M. Miller, and the Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder J. S. Collins, text, Eph. 1:1.

2. After a short recess, the brethren came together, and after praise and prayer by Elder W. E. Cagle, the Association was organized by choosing Elder J. S. Collins, Moderator, and Brother M. E. Fish, Clerk, who called to his assistance, Brother J. D. Stancil.

3. Brethren J. C. Holmes, Lonnie Johnson, and J. B. Pope were appointed a Committee on Finance.

4. Then called for letters from churches composing the Association, which were handed in, read, and their contents noted in the Statistical Table (See Table).

5. On motion, all messengers were seated and the Association declared organized and ready for such business as might properly come before it.

6. Then called for petitionary letters. None.

7. Then called for corresponding messengers, and visitors from sister Associations, which follows:

Silver Creek: Elder L. L. Huffman, Brethren C. D. McGee, Sam Hartley, and others.

Original Bear Creek: Elders V. V. Williard, E. H. Simpson, C. M. Mills, D. B. Williard and serveral other brethren and sisters visiting.

Little River of Georgia: Elders W. E. Cagle, Edward Cagle.

Visitors: Brother M. V. Browning, Maynardville, Tenn.; Elder L. S. Saylor and wife, Powell's Valley Association; 20421 Hugh St., Farmington, Mich.; Elder Rice Bolinder, Rt. 2, Batavia, Ohio; Elder Patrick Byrd, Win City, Ga., Canoochee Association; Sister Fay James, Antioch Association, Atmore, Ala.; Brother Fred Yates and wife, Washington Association.

Then invited all messengers to seats with us, to take part in our deliberations, and to feel at home.

8. Then called on messengers who agreed to visit sister Associations to report. The following reports were received:

Silver Creek: Elders J. T. Lewis, J. S. Collins, Brethren Wilbur Barbour, Stokes Lawrence.

Original Bear Creek: Elders J. S. Stephenson, J. T. Lewis, J. S. Collins, Brethren Cebra Clifton, Freddie Giles, J. D. Stancil, Wilbur Barbour and Lonnie Johnson.

Little River of Georgia: Elders J. T. Lewis, J. S. Stephenson, and Brethren Lonnie Johnson, and M. E. Fish.

9. Then agreed to appoint messengers to corresponding Associations as follows:

Silver Creek: Elders J. S. Collins, J. S. Stephenson, J. T. Lewis, Brethren Archie Hatcher and Stokes Lawrence .

Original Bear Creek: Elders J. S. Collins, J. T. Lewis, A. A. Gregory, J. S. Stephenson and Brethren Cebra Clifton, J. D. Stancil, Freddie Giles and Milton Byrd.

Little River of Georgia: Elders J. T. Lewis, J. S. Stephenson, J. S. Collins, Brethren Freddie Giles, Lonnie Johnson and Stokes Lawrence.

10. Agreed that the Committee on Finance take charge of the Minutes from sister Associations, and prepare for proper distribution to the several churches of this Association.

11. Brethren Stokes Lawrence, J. A. Corbett, Lester Williams, assisted by Elder J. T. Lewis, were appointed a Committee on Preaching during the remainder of this session.

12. Agreed that our next session be held with Salem Church Johnston County, to begin on Friday before the fourth Sunday in September, 1953, and to continue for three days, September 25, 26, and 27, 1953, and that Elder J. S. Collin be appointed to preach the Introductory Sermon with Elder J. S. Stephenson as alternate. Worship to begin at 11 o'clock a. m.

13. Agreed to adjourn until Saturday morning at 9 o'clock. Benediction by Elder V. V. Williard.

SATURDAY MORNING, September 27, 1952.

14. The Association met according to adjournment, and was opened by praise and prayer by Elder P. H. Byrd, whereupon the Association resumed business.

15. Again called for petitionary Letters. None.

16. Then called for report of the Finance Committee, which is as follows:

RECEIPTS:

Received from the churches this year	$382.55	
Received from friends	192.40	
Total	$574.95	$574.95

DISBURSEMENTS:

Clerk's Service	$20.00	
Printing and mailing Minutes	40.00	
Distributed to ministers	$514.95	
Total	$574.95	$574.95
Balance on hand	.00	

On motion, report of Finance Committee received, and Committee discharged.

17. Ordered the Clerk to transcribe and superintend the printing of the Minutes of this session, and have 500 copies printed, and to distribute them among the several churches proportionately with the membership, entering a copy of the same upon the permanent records of the Association.

18. Agreed to extend thanks to the brethren, sisters and friends of the church at Honeycutt's Request and surrounding community for their kindness shown in supporting the Association during this session. Also Johnson Cotton Company for furnishing cotton bagging to cover arbor.

19. Agreed that the balance of the funds left in the hands of the Finance Committee after deducting the usual expenses, be distributed among the ministers.

20. Agreed that all irregular trade or traffic be forbidden, within the legal bounds during the sitting of the Association, and that we extend thanks to the officers of the community for their diligence in keeping order.

21. The Clerk is ordered to give sufficient notice of the time and place of holding the next session, with all necessary information pertaining thereto.

22. On motion, the above proceedings were read, approved, and then adjourned until Sunday morning, at 9:30 o'clock.

Benediction by Elder C. M. Mills.

As per adjournment, services continued as follows:

Elder J. S. Stephenson opened with praise and prayer, and the order of preaching as follows:

Elder L. S. Saylor, text Isa. 59:1; Elder R. A. Bolinder, text, Isa. 40:1; Elder P. H. Byrd, no special text.

Intermission one hour.

Elder C. M. Mills, text, James 1:13-17; Elder J. S. Stephenson, text Rom. 10:1.

Benediction by A. A. Gregory.

ORDER OF PREACHING

Friday Morning:

Elder C. M. Mills, praise and prayer.
Elder J. S. Collins, Introductory Sermon, text Eph. 1:1.

Friday Afternoon:

Elder Jones, no special text.
Elder L. L. Huffman, 2 Tim. 3:16,17.
Elder P. H. Byrd, Benediction.

Friday Night (Honeycutt's Request Church.

Elder V. V. Williard, failed to get text.
Elder Leir Saylor, failed to get text.

Saturday Morning:

Elder E. H. Simpson, failed to get text.
Elder W. E. Cagle, John 3:1, 2.
Elder V. V. Williard, 1 Pet. 1:1, 2.

Saturday Afternoon:

Elder Edward Cagle, Matt. 7:13.
Elder D. B. Williard, Deut. 32:1, 2.
Elder J. T. Lewis, Benediction.

Saturday Night (Gift Church).

Elder L. S. Saylor, failed to get text.
Elder R. A. Bolinder, failed to get text.

Saturday Night (Smithfield Church).

Elder C. M. Mills, failed to get text.
Elder P. H. Byrd, failed to get text.

Saturday Night (Honeycutt's Request Church).

Elder Jones.

Sunday Morning:

Elder J. S. Stephenson, praise and prayer.
Elder L. S. Saylor, Isa. 59:1.
Elder R. A. Bolinder, Isa. 40:1.
Elder P. H. Byrd, no special text.

Sunday Afternoon:

Elder C. M. Mills, James 1:13-17.
Elder J. S. Stephenson, Rom. 10:1.
Elder A. A. Gregory, Benediction.

VISITING MINISTERS

Elder C. M. Mills, 3130 Central Ave., Charlotte, N. C.
Elder V. V. Williard, Rt. 2, High Point, N. C.
Elder D. B. Williard, Rt. 6, Winston-Salem, N. C.
Elder E. H. Simpson, Rt. 4, Concord, N. C.
Elder W. E. Cagle, Rt. 3, Alpharetta, Ga.
Elder L. L. Huffman, Rt. 4, Box 112, W. Ashville, N. C.
Elder P. H. Byrd, Win City, Ga.
Elder R. A. Bolinder, Batavia, Ohio.
Elder L. S. Saylor, 20421 Hugh St., Farmington, Mich.
Elder R. E. Cagle, Rt. 3, Alpharetta, Ga.
Elder Thomas E. Jones, Illinois.

HOME MINISTERS

Elder J. T. Lewis, Coats, N. C.
Elder J. S. Stephenson, Benson, N. C.
Elder J. S. Collins, Angier, N. C.
Elder E. N. Clifton, Benson, N. C.

Licentiates:

A. A. Gregory, Benson, N. C.
Charles Turlington, Lillington, N. C.

TIME AND PLACE OF HOLDING QUARTERLY MEETINGS, WITH PASTORS' NAMES ATTACHED

Fellowship: Elder E. N. Clifton, pastor; third Sunday and Saturday before in Feburary, May, August and November.

Rehobeth: J. S. Stephenson, pastor; fourth Sunday and Saturday before in February, May, August, and November.

Salem: J. S. Collins, pastor; third Sunday and Saturday before in February, May August and November.

Smithfield: J. S. Stephenson, pastor; first Sunday and Saturday before in January, April, July and October.

Mt. Zion: J. T. Lewis, pastor; second Sunday and Saturday before in January, April, July and October. Saturday meeting changed from 11 a. m. to 2 p. m. each meeting.

Four Oaks: J. T. Lewis, pastor; Fourth Sunday and Saturday before in January, April, July and October.

Gift Church: J. T. Lewis, pastor; third Sunday and Saturday before in July.

Angier: J.T. Lewis, pastor; first Sunday and Saturday before in June. Saturday meeting changed from 11 a. m., to 2:30 p. m. each meeting.

Little Flock: J. S. Stephenson, pastor; second Sunday and Saturday before in March, June, September, and December.

Honeycutt's Request: J. S. Collins, pastor; second Sunday and Saturday before in February, May, August and November. Meeting time on Saturday night at 8 o'clock, Sunday meeting at 3. p. m.

FORM OF GOVERNMENT

1. The Association shall be composed of members chosen by the churches in the Little River Association, who shall be members supposed to be the best qualified for that purpose, and those producing letters from heir respective churches, certifying their appointment, shall be entitled to seats in the Association, provided they shall not violate the rules of this Constitution.

2. In the letters from the churches shall be expressed the number received by experience and baptism, the number received by letter, the number dismissed by letter, the number excommunicated, and those who died since the last Association was held.

3. Members thus chosen and convened shall be denominated The Little River Primitive Baptist Association.

4. The Association, when convened, shall be governed and ruled by a regular and proper decorum.

5. The Association shall have a Moderator and Clerk, who shall be chosen by members composing it; the Moderator to be chosen annually at each Association; the Clerk to continue in office during his

pleasure or the pleasure of the Association.

6. New churches may be admitted into the union by a written petition, presented by messengers, with letter, and upon examination, if found orthodox and orderly, it may be manifested by the Moderator giving the messengers the right hand of fellowship.

7. Every church in the union shall be entitled to representation in the Association but shall have only three messengers from each church.

8. Every query presented by any messenger in the Association shall be read and before it shall be debated, the Moderator shall put it to a vote as to whether or not it shall be debated, and if a majority votes for debating, the query shall be debated; otherwise the query must be withdrawn.

9. Every motion made by any messenger, which receives a second, shall be considered by the Association, unless it be withdrawn by the messenger offering it.

10. The Association shall furnish the churches in the union with Minutes of its proceedings.

11. We believe it to be absolutely necessary to have a fund for defraying the necessary expenses of the Association and recommend that each church composing it voluntarily contribute such sum as they think proper, and send by their messengers to the Association, which money shall be placed in the hands of the Clerk, who shall account for the same and pay it out as directed by ht Association.

12. The Clerk shall have a book wherein shall be recorded the proceedings of each Association, as well as a record of the dates of each Association and when Associations are held at the different churches in the union, for which he shall receive a yearly compensation.

13. The Association shall provide for the general union of churches, and shall preserve inviolably a chain of communication among the same; shall give churches all necessary advice when called upon to do so; shall inquire into the cause of failure on part of any church not represented at each Association; shall appropriate the money contributed by the church for Associational fund to any purpose it deems proper; may appoint any member or members by and with their consent, to transact any business connected with the Association; shall have power to withdraw from any church composing the union, which violates the rules of the Association or deviates from the orthodox principles of faith.

14. Visiting brethren may be invited to assist in the Association in every way except to vote.

15. Amendmens may be made to this form of government at any time, by a majority vote.

16. The Minutes of the Association shall be read and approved and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before adjournment.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe in the being of God, as almighty, eternal, unchangeable, of infinite wisdom, justice, power, holiness, goodness, mercy, and truth and that this God has revealed Himself in His Word under the character of Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

2. We believe that Almighty God has made known His mind and will to the children of men in His Word, which Word we believe to be of divine authority and contains all things necessary to be known for the salvation of man. The same is comprehended or contained in the books of the Old and New Testaments.

3. We believe that God, before the foundation of the world, for a purpose in His own glory, did elect a certain number of men and angels to eternal life, and that this election is particular, eternal and unconditional on the creature's part.

4. We believe that when God made man he was good and upright, but by his own transgressions he fell from the good and upright state, and being the head representative of the whole human race, they being his naural offspring, he involved all of them in the same ruined state with himself, and they were partakers of, and exposed to the miseries which sprang from his disobedience.

5. We believe that it is utterly out of the power of man, as a fallen creature, to keep he law of God perfectly or to repent truly of his sins, or believe in Christ, except he be drawn by the Holy Spirit.

6. We believe in God's own appointed time, and way, the elect will be called, justified, pardoned and sanctified, and that it is impossible that they can utterly refuse the call, but shall be willing by divine grace to receive mercy.

7. We believe that justification in the sight of God is only by the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ, received and applied by faith.

8. We believe that those that are called by grace and born again will persevere in holiness and never fall finally away.

9. We believe it to be a duty incumbent on all God's people to walk religiously in all good works, not in the old covenant way of seeking life and favor of the Lord by it, but only as a duty from a principle of love.

10. We believe baptism by immersion and the Lord's Supper are gospel ordinances, both belonging to the converted or true believer.

11. We believe that every church is independent in matters of discipline, and that Associations, councils and conferences of ministers or churches, are not to impose on the church, the keeping, holding or maintaining of any principle or practice contrary to the church's judgment.

12. We believe in the general resurrection of the dead, both of the just and the unjust, and a final judgment.

13. We believe the punishment of the wicked is everlasting and the joys of the righteous eternal.

14. We believe that no minister has a right to administer the ordinances unless called and come under the imposition of hands by the presbytery.

RULES OF DECORUM

1. The Association shall be opened and closed by prayer.

2. Only one person shall speak at a time, who shall rise from his seat and addess the Moderator in beginning of his speech.

3. Every brother speaking shall adhere strictly to the subject under consideration, and shall in no way reflect on any other brother.

4. No messenger shall absent himself from the Association while in conference without permission.

5. No messenger shall speak more than three times on the same subject without permission from the Association.

6. Messengers shall keep strict order while the business of the Association is being transacted.

7. No messenger shall be interrupted while speaking unless he violates the Rules of Decorum.

8. No messenger shall address another in other term or appellation than the title of "brother."

9. The names of members composing the Association shall be enrolled by the Clerk and called over as the Association requires.

10. The Moderator shall not speak on any question before the Association until the other members are through speaking, when he may give his views; afer which any member having a right to speak, may reply to any matter introduced by the Moderator.

11. Any member who shall violate any rule of the Association shall be dealt with by the Association as it deems proper.

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	ADDRESSES OF CLERKS	MESSENGERS	Rec. by Baptism	Rec. by letter	Restored	Dis. by letter	Excluded	Deceased	Membership	Sun. of meeting	Contribution	Year Asso. last held
Salem	Alex Atkinson, R. 1, Garner, N. C.	Alex Atkinson, J. W. Atkinson, Wm. Wilkins	2	..	..	..	..	3	18	3	$21.00	1943
Four Oaks	J. C. Holmes Rt. 3, Benson, N. C.	J. C. Holmes, W. D. Parker, J. F. Parker	3	..	..	..	..	1	22	4	22.00	1944
Gift	R. M. Turner, Erwin, N. C.	R. M. Turner, J. F. Williams, John Byrd	3	..	..	..	3	1	95	3	60.05	1945
Rehobeth	R. L. Barbour, Rt. 1, Benson, N. C.	R. Clifton, Milton Byrd, Cebra Clifton	..	..	..	..	3	4	70	4	32.00	1946
Angier	M. E. Fish, Angier, N. C.	A. W. Slaughter, K. S. Rambeau, Bert Clayton	4	..	..	..	1	..	37	1	80.00	1947
Mt. Zion	R. F. Smith, Benson, N. C.	R. F. Smith, A. A. Gregory, J. M. Roberts	..	..	..	..	..	2	11	2	27.00	1948
Fellowship	W. R. Hargis B. 513 Four Oaks N. C.	W. R. Hargiss, E. H. Dupree	..	..	..	..	1	..	9	3	10.50	1949
Smithfield	J. A. Corbett, Rt. 2, Clayton, N. C.	R. D. Woodard, J. A. Corbett, Geo. Sutherland	..	..	..	..	..	..	53	1	53.00	1950
Little Flock	J. B. Pope, Rt. 2, Angier, N. C.	J. B. Pope, L. N. Hayes, O. C. Gregory	1	..	..	..	..	..	21	2	27.00	1951
Honeycutt's Request	Lonnie Johnson Rt. 1 Godwin N. C.	Church in body	..	..	..	..	..	..	16	2	50.00	1952
		Totals	13	..	..	..	8	11	352	..	382.55	
		Received from friends	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	192.40	
		Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	574.95	